

Commander's Comments



**Lt. Col. Dana R.
Hurst**

Seasons greetings to everyone. Another year is coming to an end and the District continues to shine. You have demonstrated your overwhelming generosity again this year. Those who we have helped are grateful for your kindness. Hope you all are able to enjoy the Holidays with family and friends and recharge the batteries for a fast-paced nine months, Fiscal Year, to come.

We expect a large workload this year as a result of completing superb projects for our partners. Discretionary work has been a key component to our workload and reflects great credit upon all our employees who make it happen. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Energy, New Mexico National Guard, and Department of Homeland Security continue to reward us with challenging projects because we deliver for them.

USACE 2012 is moving forward to enable Districts to deliver projects faster and cheaper with the same professional quality. Our support functions are being regionalized to maximize efficiencies within the Regional Business Center (RBC). We believe we will be able to reduce overhead costs and provide better services and opportunities for our employees. For Operations, and Engineering and Construction Divisions, regionalizing will encompass being able to move work virtually throughout the RBC and cutting through some of the red tape our organization has self imposed upon itself over the years. Your role is to identify those processes or procedures that hinder our efficiency so that we can get them changed. You don't have to wait for these to formally take effect: "Deeds not Words," and Just Do It.

We've hired some great talent in key leadership positions in 2003 to continue to bring reality to our Deeds. Cynthia Nielsen – Deputy for Programs, Plans, and Project Management, Steve Purdy – Construction, Deb Foley – Civil Works, Glen Roybal – Cost Engineering, Roger Torres - Northern Area Office, Dahte Homon – Information Management, Mike Uribe – Logistics, and Chuck Opet – Trinidad Project. Additionally, we had many other hires, several promotions, and eight new interns. Welcome all to this great team!!

Our team members deployed in support of the Global War on Terror continue to represent the Corps of Engineers proudly. As of this writing, we have six members in Iraq and one in Qatar. Let's ensure we keep them and their families in our thoughts and part of our family. We continue to seek volunteers for future rotations of the ongoing mission.

Lastly, Ingrid, Garrett and I, wish each of you a healthy, joyous and prosperous New Year. I am proud of each and every one of you and honored to have the opportunity to command such a great organization.

Essayons!



Joy to the World

RipRap

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